

Application Serial No. 09/937,074
Amendment dated June 17, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated March 28, 200

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method for producing glass-ceramic parts and/or glass parts comprising: forming a glass-ceramic and/or glass blank using infrared radiation, wherein the infrared radiation is a short-wave infrared radiation from an infrared radiation source with a color temperature of more than 1500 K, and a portion of the infrared radiation acts directly on the glass-ceramic blank and/or glass blank, and another portion of the radiation acts indirectly on the glass-ceramic blank and/or glass blank, and wherein the portion of the radiation acting indirectly on the glass-ceramic blank and/or glass blank is more than 50% of the total radiation power impinging on the surfaces of the glass-ceramic blank and/or glass blank.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 1, wherein a glass-ceramic blank is produced, and said forming step is carried out before the glass-ceramic blank is ceramized.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 1, wherein a glass-ceramic blank is produced, and said forming step is carried out together with ceramization of the glass-ceramic blank.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 1, wherein the glass-ceramic blank and/or the glass blank is a glass plate.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 1, wherein a glass blank is produced, and said forming step is carried out while the glass blank is being softened.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 1, wherein said forming step further comprises gravity lowering said glass-ceramic blank and/or glass blank.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 1, wherein said forming step further comprises vacuum lowering said glass-ceramic blank and/or glass blank.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 1, wherein said forming step further comprises lowering said glass-ceramic blank and/or glass blank by means of a molding plug.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): The method of Claim 1, wherein said forming step further comprises lowering said glass-ceramic blank and/or glass blank by blowing.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 1, wherein said forming step further comprises a directional infrared irradiation of the glass-ceramic blank and/or glass blank to using a plurality of directional infrared radiators.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 1, wherein said forming step further comprises the use of shields disposed between the radiation source and the glass-ceramic and/or glass blank.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 1, wherein said forming step is carried out in an infrared radiation chamber.

Claim 13 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 12, wherein said radiation is carried out by means of infrared radiators disposed in the infrared radiation chamber.

Claim 14 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 1, further comprising the additional step of preheating the glass-ceramic blank and/or glass blank.

Claim 15 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 14, wherein the glass-ceramic blank and/or glass blank is preheated in a conventional oven.

Claim 16 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 1, further comprising the additional step of reheating the glass-ceramic and/or the glass blank after said forming step.

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Claim 17 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 16, wherein the glass-ceramic and/or the glass blank is reheated in a conventional oven.

Claims 18-24 (Canceled)

Claim 25 (Currently amended): The method of [[Claim]] claim 1, wherein the color temperature of the radiation source is more than 2000 K.